

COMPANY CASE STUDY- BHP BILLITON PETROLEUM

GENERAL INFORMATION

SECTOR: Mining, metals and [petroleum](#)

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BHP Billiton is an Anglo-Australian multinational mining, metals and petroleum company headquartered in Melbourne, Australia. It is the world's largest mining company measured by 2013 revenues.

BHP Billiton Petroleum has exploration, development, production and marketing activities in more than a dozen countries around the globe, with a significant position in the deep water Gulf of Mexico, Onshore US and Australia. BHP Petroleum also operates assets in the United States, Australia, United Kingdom, Trinidad and Tobago and Pakistan.

BHP Billiton supports human rights consistent with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (Community GLD based on UNGPs), is a signatory to the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights and follows the ICMM position statement on indigenous people, as well as the IFC performance standards. Read more here:

<http://www.bhpbilliton.com/home/Society/Pages/default.aspx>

CASE STUDY

APPLICATION OF THE INDICATORS: Global assets of BHP Billiton Petroleum.

In 2013 BHP Billiton Petroleum conducted a full Human Rights Compliance Assessment for all their global assets. The HRCA tool was used as a screening tool towards identifying critical gaps in meeting human rights performance standards for worldwide operations. The HRCA tool provided a beneficial frame in which all major categories of the human rights compliance were addressed and identified in accordance with BHP Billiton's own risk assessment model. During the risk evaluation process the support and documentation for human rights performance standards were easy to use, particularly the key performance standards such as, security issues for the extractive industry which proved very useful and valuable in the test and review of current business contract.

The biggest challenge for BHP Billiton in using the HRCA tool was that the company users of the HRCA database were quite overwhelmed with the amount of information that required subject matter expertise, that unfortunately was not available at all company locations. Because of this issue a simplified screening process tailored to BHP Petroleum operations was developed to conduct the screening phase. Support documentation particularly risk models were helpful and only required more case studies to illustrate application in different business scenarios

The indicators and support questions cover key areas to cross-reference with existing companies policies or lack of policies, it was very useful material to use and assess for BHP Petroleum. The questions related to security, supply chain and workers camps were specifically useful and applicable to BHP Petroleum's work. Some indicators were less applicable such as the quality of life indicators, intellectual property, and property ownership. The questions related to vulnerable groups, particularly women and young employees were challenging since the questions did not fit BHPs human resource policies regarding minimum employment age and health benefits.

Overall the consensus was that each industrial sector must define boundaries while using the tool and focus on the scoping phase for any assessment. Expert guidance using the tool was identified as a must have.